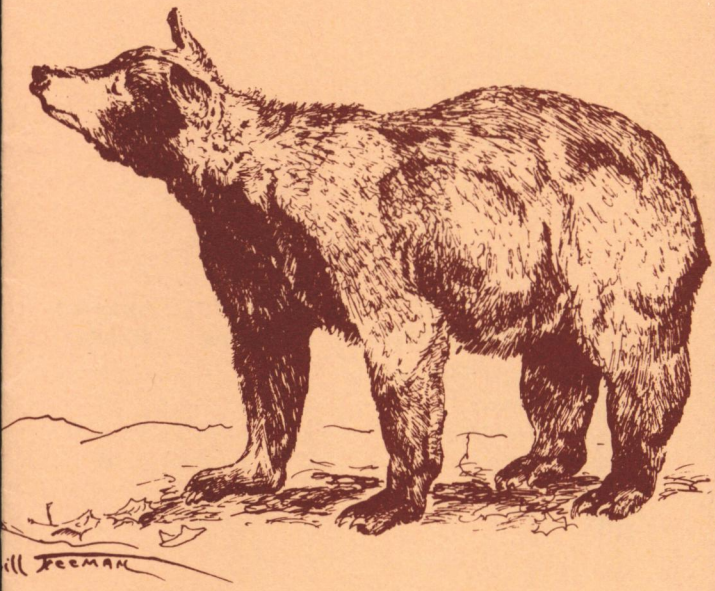
SD11
.R3

R-3
misc.

animal tales



PRESCOTT
National Forest

TURKEY

Wildlife is one of our country's renewable natural resources. Wildlife can be maintained, but its permanency depends on careful planning for protection and management of the wildlife species and for their habitats, the place where animals live. Wildlife can be enjoyed almost anywhere. Sparrows in the city are as important as the hunted species such as deer and javelina and the protected species such as the bald eagle. Wildlife enhances the richness of our land. Wildlife management is an important tool in developing and perpetuating our wildlife resource for enjoyment by present and future generations.

Management of the wildlife resource within the Prescott National Forest is shared between the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Forest Service. The Arizona Game and Fish Department regulates the wildlife through establishment of hunting and fishing seasons, setting bag limits for each species and enforcing game laws. They also conduct annual surveys to determine wildlife populations and trends, and carry out all species associated activities such as stocking lakes with fish, transplanting wildlife and introducing new species where there is adequate habitat.

The Forest Service manages the wildlife habitat by maintaining a variety of habitats that will permit the existence of all species. They improve the habitats that contain threatened and endangered species so that their habitat is no longer limited. The Forest Service also increases the habitat for those species which are important to man. Wildlife habitats are managed by maintaining a variety of vegetation and by providing water sources for the animals. Generally, as the variety of vegetation increases, the variety of wildlife increases. A variety of vegetation is maintained by removing trees and shrubs to provide room for other types of plants to grow. Vegetation is removed through timber sales to logging companies, gathering fuelwood for your fireplace, brush crushing with large machines, and burning under planned conditions. Water sources are provided by creating livestock watering ponds which also benefit wildlife, constructing small catch basins which hold melting snow in the spring and rainwater in the summer, providing water storage areas at natural springs and piping water over land from a dependable water source to an area where there is no dependable water.

PLANT ASSOCIATIONS where animals live in the Prescott National Forest

GAMBEL'S QUAIL

A —

Woodland — Semi-arid environment with a precipitation average of 17 inches each year. Elevations range from 5,000 to 7,000 feet above sea level. Evergreen trees of pinyon pine, juniper and oak are the dominant vegetation with an undergrowth of grasses.

B —

Chaparral — Semi-arid environment with a precipitation average of 15 inches each year. Elevations range from 4,000 to 6,000 feet above sea level. The vegetation is normally very dense and consists of many types of evergreen shrubs to 10 feet tall.

C —

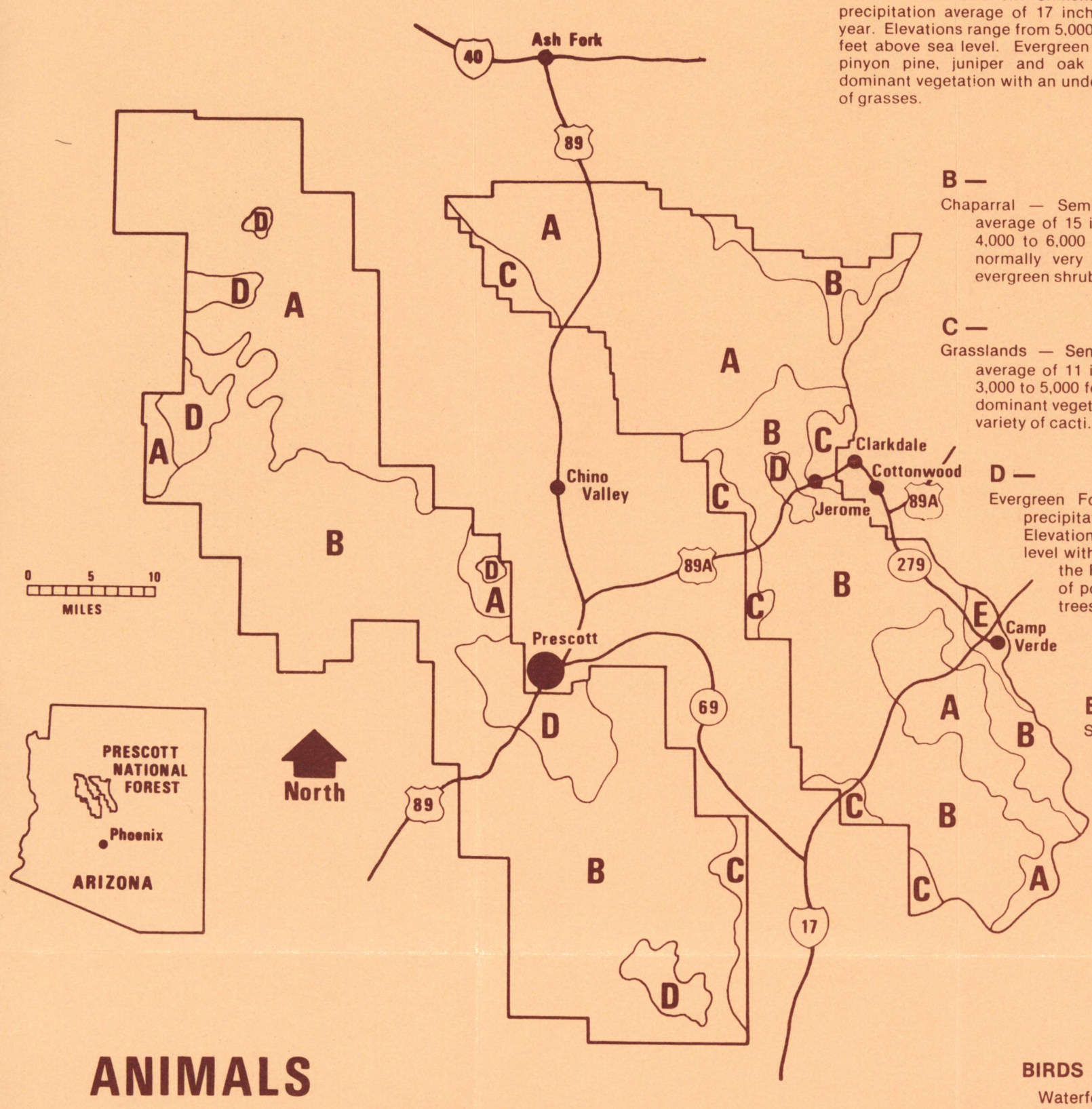
Grasslands — Semi-arid environment with a precipitation average of 11 inches each year. Elevations range from 3,000 to 5,000 feet above sea level. Short grasses are the dominant vegetation with accents of yucca, agaves, and a variety of cacti.

D —

Evergreen Forest — Semi-arid environment with a precipitation average of 21 inches each year. Elevations range from 6,000 to 7,979 feet above sea level with Mt. Union being the highest point within the Prescott National Forest. Evergreen trees of ponderosa pine dominate this zone with fir trees found at the highest elevations.

E —

Sonoran Desertscrub — This is an arid and hot environment with irregular precipitation that averages 10 inches each year. Elevations in this zone are below 3,000 feet. Vegetation is highly varied and ranges from the leafless to the evergreen drought resistant plants including trees and shrubs, herbs, grasses, yuccas, agaves, and many varieties of cacti.



ANIMALS and their habitats

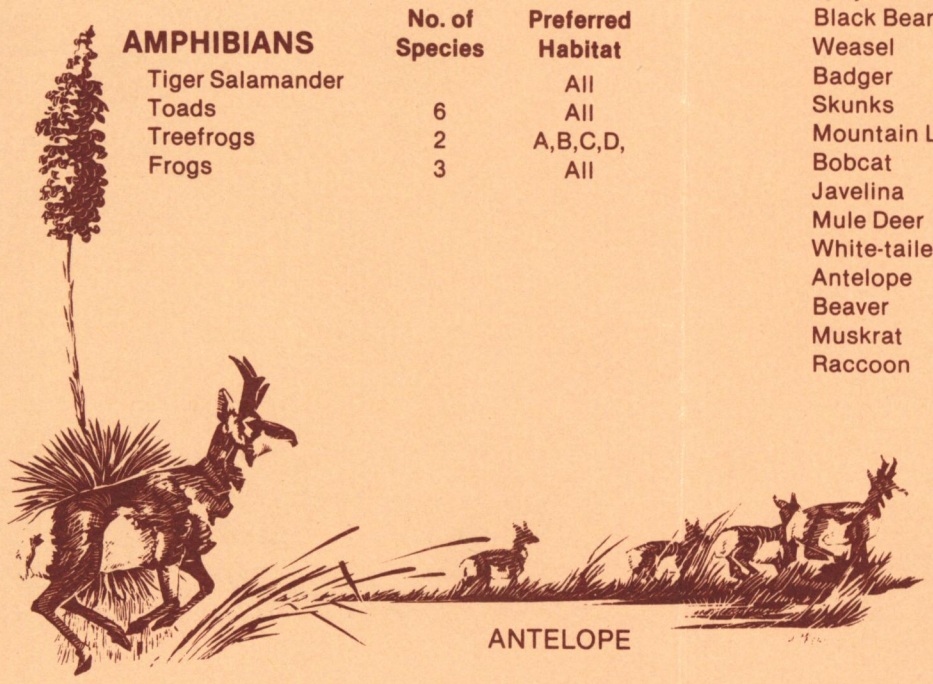
REPTILES	No. of Species	Preferred Habitat
Lizards	15	All
Skunks	3	A,B,D
Chuckwalla		B,E
Gecko		B,E
Whiptail	3	All
Gila Monster		E
Non-poisonous Snakes	15	All
Rattlesnakes	4	A,B,C,E
Arizona Coral Snake		B

AMPHIBIANS	No. of Species	Preferred Habitat
Tiger Salamander		All
Toads	6	All
Treefrogs	2	A,B,C,D,
Frogs	3	All

MAMMALS	No. of Species	Preferred Habitat
Shrews	3	C,D,E
Bats	15	All
Cottontail Rabbit	3	All
Jackrabbit		All
Chipmunks	3	A,D
Ground Squirrels	3	All
Abert's Squirrel		D
Gray Squirrel		D
Mice	15	A,B,C,E
Kangaroo Rat		A,B,C,E
Wood Rat	3	All
Pocket Gopher		All
Ringtail		All
Porcupine		A,B,D
Coyote		All
Gray Fox		All
Black Bear		D
Weasel		D
Badger		All
Skunks	4	A,B,C,E
Mountain Lion		All
Bobcat		All
Javelina		A,B,E
Mule Deer		All
White-tailed Deer		B,C
Antelope		A,C,D
Beaver		Near Water
Muskrat		Near Water
Raccoon		Near Water

BIRDS	No. of Species	Preferred Habitat
Waterfowl	26	Lakes
Shore Birds	20	Lakes
Belted Kingfisher		Near Water
Water Pipit		Near Water
Turkey Vulture		All
Hawks	9	All
Golden Eagle		All
# Bald Eagle		Near Water
Osprey		Near Water
Falcon	4	C,E
Owl	9	All
Gambel's Quail		B,C,E
Turkey		A,D
Pigeons & Doves	6	B,D,E
Roadrunner		C,E
Nighthawk	3	A,C,D,E
Swift		Cliffs
Hummingbird	4	All
Woodpecker	10	D,E
Flycatcher	16	All
Horned Lark		C
Swallow	6	D
Jay	5	A,B,D
Raven		All
Crow		Agriculture
Chickadee		D
Titmice	4	A,B,D,E
Nuthatch	4	D
Wren	6	A,D,E
Thrasher	7	B,D,E
Thrush	3	D
Bluebird	2	D
Gnatcatcher	3	B,D,E
Cedar Waxwing		D
Phainopepla		B,E
Shrike	2	C,D,E
Starling		Near Water
Vireo	4	A,B,D
Warbler	15	B,D
Meadowlark	2	C
Blackbird	5	Near Water
Oriole	3	B,C
Tanager	3	D
Cardinal		Near Water
Grosbeak	3	D
Bunting	2	Near Water
Finch	6	D
Towhee	4	B,C,D,E
Sparrow	17	B,C,D,E

ENDANGERED



ANTELOPE

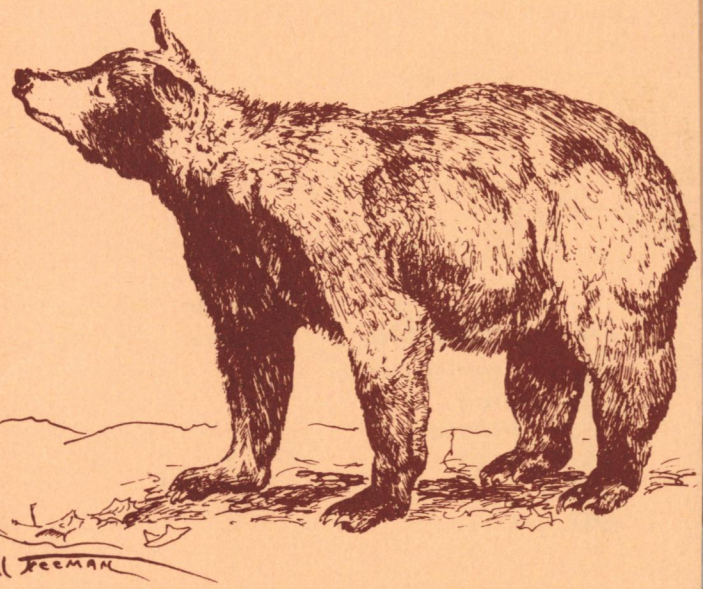
WOOD · WATER · FORAGE · WILDLIFE · RECREATION
FOREST SERVICE U S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SD11
.R3
R-3
Misc

The basic needs of wildlife are essentially the same as those of man. They must have adequate food, clean water and protection from the elements if they are to survive. Animals need variety in their habitat in order to exist. They need a place to feed, hide, rest, sleep, play and raise their young. Man-made changes in the environment to favor the needs of certain animals is a basic technique of wildlife management. Some environmental changes, however, may be extremely damaging to all wildlife. Excessive pollution, repeated uncontrolled forest fires, and soil erosion can create wildlife deserts. As an example, few of the birds and mammals listed as threatened and endangered were ever hunted. Those animals are victims of massive man-made environmental changes such as pollution, land-filling and clearing that have destroyed one or more essential elements in their habitat. When desirable animals begin to disappear from an area, in spite of legal protection, it is an indication that something is wrong with the environment. Animals are highly sensitive to environmental change. Animals are immediately affected by altering stream temperature or flow, draining wetlands, clearing entire forests or other changes which limit their food, water or shelter. Consequently, proper use of our nation's land and water resources is in the best interest of man and of the animals he enjoys.

Sketches courtesy of Arizona Game and Fish Department

animal tales



PRESCOTT
National Forest